THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government will continue to impress upon Bangladesh the need to create the conditions within Bangladesh which will enable the refugees to return in safety.

Enrolment of workmen by construction companies for sending them abroad

1005. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of construction companies are enrolling workmen alluring them with promises of foreign appointments and some are also exporting human labour;

(b) if so, what are the names of such companies (both approved and unapproved) and the number of workers actually sent abroad by them during the last three years, year-wise and the amount taken by them from each of the workers for foreign assignment;

(c) whether it is a fact that one such Company, M/s. Continental Construction Co. situated at 28, Nehru Place, New Delhi had already taken twelve to fifteen thousand rupees per worker from a number of workers in the year 1983 and are still awaiting their chances to be sent abroad while during all these years the Company has been extracting free labour from these workers; and

(d) whether this is permissible under the rules and if not what steps Government propose to take against the company for cheating the innocent workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no list of approved and unapproved companies. Over 35,000 workers were deployed by the construction companies during the last three years but year-wise break-up is not available. The companies cannot charge any money from the workers.

(c) Some complaints were received in this regard but could not be substantiated.

(d) No, Sir. Complaints of cheating are enquired into and also referred to the Police.

Lifting of ban on Export of Monkeys

1006. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to lift the ban imposed on the export of monkeys from the country; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Visit by the External Affairs Minister to European Countries

1007. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he visited some European countries during the month of April, 1987 (30th March, 1987 to 5th April, 1987);

(b) if so, the names of the countries visited by him;

(c) the nature of talks held with those Governments; and

(d) whether any agreement has been made and if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) External Affairs Minister Shri N. D. Tiwari visited Czechoslovakia from 30-3-87 to 1-4-87 and Poland from 2-4-87 to 5-4-87.

(c) In Czechoslovakia EAM had meetings with President Husak, Prime Minister Streugal, Chairman of the Federal Assembly, Mr. Alois Indra, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia Mr. Vasil Bilak and Foreign Trade Minister Mr. Bohumil Urban. He had official talks with his counterpart Mr. Bohuslav Chnoupak. During the talks relations between the two countries were reviewed. Satisfaction was expressed at the smooth progress of bilateral cooperation. It was agreed that special attention will be focussed on expanding and diversifying trade, economic and scientific relations.

The talks also provided an opportunity for exchange of views on regional developments. The Czechoslovak leaders gave their evaluation of the current situation in Europe and EAM acquainted them with developments in our region.

The international situation was also discussed and it was noted that there was identity or close proximity of views on important global issues like peace and disarmament, international economic situation etc.

In Poland, EAM met General Jaruzelski, Chairman of the State Council; Mr. Zbigniew Messner, Chairman of the Council of Ministers; Marshal of the Sejm Mr. Malinowski and held official talks with his counterpart Mr. Marian Orzechowski.

Various aspects of bilateral cooperation were discussed at leangthand both sides noted with satisfaction the progress in Indo-Polish ties. It was decided that more vigorous efforts would be directed towards realising the full potential of bilateral economic cooperation through increased trade and industrial collaboration.

EAM was briefed on current developments in and around Poland as also in Europe. Views were exchanged on major international issues and it was noted with satisfaction that India and Poland shared identical or similar perceptions.

The talks both in Czechoslovakia and Poland were conducted in an atmosphere of warmth and mutual understanding and contributed substantially to furthering the traditional close understanding and friendship between India and these two countries.

(d) No agreement was signed during this visit.

UNCTAD Agreement on Natural Rubber

1008. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new international agreement on trading in natural rubber has been signed in the UNCTAD;

(b) if so, what are the details of the agreement; and

(c) how far it will be beneficial to India?